

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An audio/video (AV) stream processing system comprising:
 - a receiving unit which receives an AV stream comprising a content information field and a content field, the content information field comprising first copy control information, and the content field comprising second copy control information;
 - a determining unit which determines whether the first and the second copy control information are different; and
 - a decryption unit for processing the AV stream according to one of the first and the second copy control information having a higher priority over another of the first and the second copy control information, when the first and the second copy control information are different.
2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the second copy control information has the higher priority over the first copy control information when the first and the second copy control information are different.
3. The system according to claim 1, wherein the first copy control information has the higher priority over the second copy control information when the first and the second copy control information are different.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein:
 - each of the first and the second copy control information comprises a copy control mode of a content of the AV stream, and
 - the copy control mode comprises one of a first mode in which the content is encrypted and copying of the content is prohibited, a second mode in which the content is encrypted and one time copying of the content is allowed, the second mode being changed to the first mode after the one time copying, a third mode in which the content is encrypted and unrestricted copying of the content is allowed, and a fourth mode in which the content is not encrypted and unrestricted copying of the content is allowed.
5. The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein the decryption unit comprises:
 - a key generating unit which generates a decryption key for decrypting the content;
 - a content interpreting unit which decrypts the content using the decryption key to generate a decrypted content; and
 - a control unit which controls the key generating unit and the content interpreting unit according to the one of the first and the second copy control information having the higher priority over the another of the first and the second copy control information, when the first and the second copy control information are different.

6. The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein the decryption unit comprises:

a key generating unit which generates a decryption key;

a content interpreting unit which decrypts the content to generate a decrypted content; and

a control unit which outputs a control signal corresponding to the copy control mode when the first and the second copy control information are the same, or when the first and the second copy control information are different, corresponding to the copy control mode of the one of the first and the second copy control information having the higher priority over the another of the first and the second copy control information, and generates a stop signal when the control signal corresponds to the first mode of the copy control mode, wherein the control unit outputs the stop signal to the key generating unit when the AV stream is not being played and outputs the stop signal to the content interpreting unit when the AV stream is being played, wherein

the key generating unit which generates a decryption key for decrypting the content in response to the control signal corresponding to one of the second and third mode, and stops generating the decryption key in response to the stop signal; and

the content interpreting unit which decrypts the content using the decryption key, outputs the content, in response to the control signal

corresponding to the fourth mode, and stops decrypting the content in response to the stop signal.

7. The system as claimed in claim 6, further comprising a storage unit which stores the decrypted content or the content.

8. The system according to claim 4, wherein the determining unit comprises:

a storage unit which stores the first copy control information; and
a comparator unit which compares the copy control mode of the first copy control information with the copy control mode of the second copy control information.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the decryption unit processes the AV stream using the one of the first and the second copy control information providing enhanced copy protection over the another of the first and the second copy control information, when the first and the second copy control information are different.

10. The system according to claim 1, wherein the determining unit establishes a priority between the first and the second copy control information when the first and the second copy control information are different.

11. An audio/video (AV) stream processing system comprising:
means for receiving an AV stream comprising a content information
field and a content field;
means for determining whether copy control information of the content
information field has been modified; and
means for processing the AV stream using one of the copy control
information of the content information field and copy control information of
the content field having a higher priority over another of the copy control
information of the content information field and the copy control information
of the content field, when the copy control information of the content
information field has been modified.

12. An audio/video (AV) stream processing system comprising:
a receiving unit which receives an AV stream
comprising a content information field and a content field, the content
information field comprising first copy control information, and the content
field comprising second copy control information;
a determination unit which compares the first copy control information
with the second copy control information; and
a decryption unit which stops processing the AV stream or processes
the AV stream using one of the first and the second copy control information
having a higher priority over another of the first and the second copy control

information, when the first and the second copy control information are different.

13. An apparatus for copy control for use in an audio/video (AV) stream processing system which processes an AV stream comprising a content information field and a content field, the apparatus comprising:

an extracting component which extracts copy control information of the content information field and copy control information of the content field from the AV stream; and

a comparing component which compares the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field to determine whether the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field are different.

14. An apparatus for copy control for use in an audio/video (AV) stream processing system which processes an AV stream comprising a content information field and a content field, the apparatus comprising:

an extracting component which extracts copy control information of the content information field and copy control information of the content field from the AV stream; and

a determining component which establishes a priority between the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control

information of the content field, when the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field are different.

15. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the determining component establishes one of the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field providing enhanced copy protection over another of the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field as established copy control information for processing the AV stream, when the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field are different.

16. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the determining component establishes the copy control information of the content information field as established copy control information for processing the AV stream when the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field are different.

17. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the AV stream is processed using a copy control mode of one of the first and the second copy control information having priority over another of the first and the second copy control information, wherein:

the copy control mode comprises one of a first mode in which the content is encrypted and copying of the content is prohibited, a second mode in which the content is encrypted and one time copying of the content is allowed, the second mode being changed to the first mode after the one time copying, a third mode in which the content is encrypted and unrestricted copying of the content is allowed, and a fourth mode in which the content is not encrypted and unrestricted copying of the content is allowed, and

when the copy control mode corresponds to the first mode, a decryption of the content of the AV stream for copying of the content terminates when the AV stream is being played, or a generation of a decryption key for decrypting content of the AV stream for copying of the content terminates when the AV stream is not being played.

18. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the determining component establishes the copy control information of the content field as established information for processing the AV stream when the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field are different.

19. An audio/video (AV) stream processing method comprising:
receiving an AV stream comprising a content information field and a content field, wherein the content information field comprises first copy

control information, and the content field comprises second copy control information;

determining whether the first and the second copy control information are different; and

processing the AV stream using one of the first and the second copy control information having a higher priority over another of the first and the second copy control information, when the first and the second copy control information are different.

20. The method according to claim 19, further comprising establishing the second copy control information as having the higher priority over the first copy control information when the first and the second copy control information are different, wherein the processing the AV stream comprises processing content of the AV stream using the second copy control information.

21. The method according to claim 19, further comprising establishing the first copy control information as having the higher priority over the second copy control information when the first and the second copy control information are different, wherein the processing the AV stream comprises processing content of the AV stream using the first copy control information.

22. The method according to claim 19, wherein the determining whether the first and the second copy control information are different comprises determining whether copy control mode information of the first and the second copy control information are different.

23. An audio/video (AV) stream processing method comprising:
receiving an AV stream comprising a content information field and a content field;

determining whether copy control information of the content information field has been modified; and

processing the AV stream using one of the copy control information of the content information field and copy control information of the content field having a higher priority over another of the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field, when the copy control information of the content information field has been modified.

24. An audio/video (AV) stream processing method comprising:
receiving an AV stream comprising a content information field and a content field, wherein the content information field comprises first copy control information, and the content field comprises second copy control information;

comparing the first copy control information with the second copy control information; and

when the first and the second copy control information are different, performing one of terminating processing of the AV stream and processing the AV stream using one of the first and the second copy control information having a higher priority over another of the first and the second copy control information.

25. A computer readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions for performing the operations recited in claim 24.

26. A method for copy control in processing an audio/video (AV) stream comprising a content information field and a content field, the method comprising:

comparing copy control information of the content information field with copy control information of the content field; and

establishing a priority between the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field, when the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field are different.

27. The method according to claim 26, wherein the establishing comprises establishing one of the copy control information of the content

information field and the copy control information of the content field providing enhanced copy protection over an other of the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field, as established information for processing the AV stream when the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field are different.

28. The method according to claim 26, wherein the establishing comprises establishing the copy control information of the content information field as established information for processing the AV stream, when the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field are different.

29. The method according to claim 26, wherein the establishing comprises establishing the copy control information of the content field as established information for processing the AV stream, when the copy control information of the content information field and the copy control information of the content field are different.

30. A computer readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions for performing the operations recited in claim 26.